



OFFICE OF THE  
WATER POLLUTION  
CONTROL AUTHORITY

# TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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APPROVED

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT September 26, 2019

### Attendees:

John Anderson, Ken Boynton, Carina Hart, and Kevin Kearney. Also present: Robert I. Grasis, Director of Water Pollution Control; Matthew Daskal, Financial Analyst; and Tim Webb, Ellington WPCA

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### MINUTES OF THE WPCA PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON August 8, 2019

Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Boynton made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the August 8, 2019 Public Hearing as presented. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0). Mr. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Kearney, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the August 8, 2019 Special Meeting as presented/amended. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

### UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Grasis referenced a facility upgrade baseline schedule as provided by Methuen and answered questions from the Authority. To date, Methuen and Tighe & Bond both have work trailers onsite, a temporary fence has been installed on the west side of the property and the sign, as required by the state, has been erected in front of the facility. Also: personnel from DEEP, Tighe & Bond, Methuen, and the Town meet every two weeks to discuss the project; the Clean Water Fund Agreement was finalized and the closing was September 18<sup>th</sup>; municipalities participating in the Intermunicipal Agreement will be notified of their debt schedule next week; and the groundbreaking ceremony went well. Mr. Grasis explained that pumps that handle Over the Road waste in the pretreatment building will have to be removed. DEEP suggested suspending the treatment of Over the Road Waste for the duration of the project and per DEEP, the facility is not required to provide this service. Mr. Daskal said that annual Over the Road revenue is approximately \$8,000-\$12,000. Mr. Grasis recommended suspending the service. Discussion took place. It was the consensus of the Authority to suspend Over the Road Waste disposal services. Further discussion took place regarding a truncated schedule for the upgrade.

### PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Grasis reported that the plant is running well and there has not been much Over the Road Waste all year; chlorine use is up but not excessively; and the nitrogen discharge for August has been the lowest it has been since January. Current activities reported included: the new flusher truck is being detailed at Public Works and it along with the crane and camera trucks will be at Community Day on September 28<sup>th</sup>; the settlement agreement with the Town of Tolland was signed; the Assistant Collector of Revenue position has been filled by

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Kathy Minor; Friendly's Notice of Violation regarding the disposal of Fats, Oils and Grease has been resolved; the contract with DW Transport has been changed so that the town will pay disposal fees directly to MDC; and sewer manhole raising will cease since the road bond project is complete. On September 16<sup>th</sup>, the contractor for Connecticut Water damaged a 15 inch clay sewer line on West Main Street. Mr. Grasis said that a sewer bypass had to be set up by department personnel when the line was being repaired by the contractor. He said the Town will be seeking reimbursement for employee time and rental equipment costs. Mr. Grasis presented an engineering services report from Tighe & Bond for a Phase II Sewer System Evaluation Survey (SSES). He explained that it is the next phase of the Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) study and Steve Seigal of Tighe & Bond will attend the next WPCA meeting to further discuss the SSES. Mr. Grasis said that the October 1<sup>st</sup> sewer use bills are out and sewer use fees for a property slated for tax sale were paid at the last minute.

REQUEST FOR A BID WAIVER FOR THE INSPECTION AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES PROVIDED BY ELM ELECTRICAL AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Mr. Grasis referenced a proposal from Elm Electric to provided diagnostic services and inspections for electrical equipment at the treatment facility for one year. Mr. Grasis informed the Authority that Elm Electric is a good and responsive vendor. He contacted two other vendors for proposals but they were non-responsive Mr. Grasis said. Discussion took place. Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Boynton, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority, in the best interest of the Town, waives the bidding procedure for a one year inspection and diagnostic service as outlined in the proposal from Elm Electrical, Inc., Westfield, MA at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$9,741.00. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

BUDGET AMENDMENT #1

Mr. Daskal and Mr. Grasis provided background on this item. Discussion took place relative to replacing unsafe and obsolete office furniture for the treatment facility conference room as well as the Business Office. Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Kearney, moved that the Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Authority approves FY 2020 Budget Amendment One. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

Mr. Daskal provided information relative to digital display equipment for the treatment facility conference room. Discussion took place. It was the consensus of the Authority to table this item until the next meeting so additional information and pricing can be obtained.


ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

A discussion took place relative to a parcel of land abutting the treatment plant that is for sale.

ADJOURN

Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Boynton made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa B. Yost  
Secretary, Water Pollution Control